Celebration of Life for

Minister Donna Lanae Lothlen

Sunrise March 9, 1952 – Sunset February 18, 2016

The Greater Mingleton Temple C.O.G.I.C.
1222 Market Street
Oakland, CA 94607
Saturday, February 27, 2016, 11:00am
Bishop Michael Johnson, Host Pastor
Pastor Ronald Thompson, Eulogist

Celebration of Life for

Minister Donna Lanae Lothlen

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Presiding
Elder Sean Evans - Glad Tidings C.O.G.I.C.
and
Mistress of Ceremony
Missionary Gail Webb Goodwin – Glad Tidings C.O.G.I.C.

Musical Prelude.....

Processional.....

Invocation.....Elder Willie Stinson

Scripture Reading.....Old Testament.....Pastor Jonathan McGriff

New Testament.....Pastor Steve Sumner

Selection.....California Northwest State Reunion Choir
Mother Joyce Sneed

Reflections.....Sister Pam Frazier Washington
Reverend Doctor Gloria Wilson
District Missionary Bernice Webb Bates

Solo.....Miko Marks
Recording Artist

Words of Expression (2 Mins).....Mrs. Donna Helling - Carpenters Union
Patrice Alexander - Sivadd - Erhman Law Firm
Miss'y Faye Amey - Kaleo Christian Fellowship

Selection.....Tribute Choir (Friends of Donna Lothlen)
Elder Daryl Norman, Director

Family Tribute.....Mariah Lothlen
Brittni Lothlen
Leonard Lothlen Jr.
Dr. Joya Chavarin

Expressions - Family and Friends (2 Mins) .....

Selection.....Pastor Porsha Sumner
Terrance McCurdy

Resolutions.....District Missionary Beulah Johnson
Prayer Tower C.O.G.I.C.

Selection.....Tribute Choir (Friends of Donna Lothlen)
Elder Daryl Norman, Director

Reflections - Music Ministries.....Minister Jonathan Pryor
Sister Brenda Jeff
Leonard Lothlen Band Members

Acknowledgement of Condolences.....Missionary Barbara Webb

Celebration of Life.....Reading of the Obituary
Missionary Lavada Thompson

Acknowledgement of the Pulpit.....Elder Sean Evans

Words of Expression / Ministry.....Elder Eric Earl
Reverend Doctor Sheila Robinson
Pastor James E. Bobo

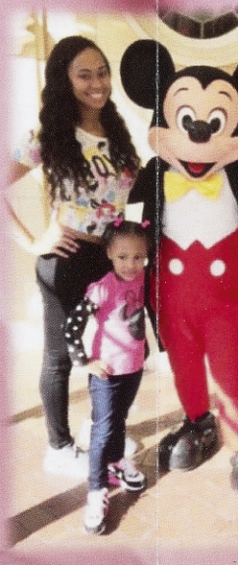
Words of Encouragement & Introduction of Speaker.....Bishop Michael Johnson

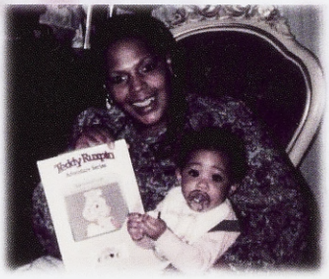
Sermonic Solo.....Missionary Alfern Webb Brown

Proclamation of Hope.....Pastor Ronnie Thompson
Prayer Tower COGIC

A Final Glimpse Till Glory.....C.P. Bannon Funeral Staff in Charge

Recessional.....




Teddy Ruxpin

Celebrating the Life of
Minister Donna Lanae Lothlen

Donna Lanae Lothlen was born on March 9, 1952 to proud parents Rev. Charles and Aline Lothlen in Berkeley, CA. She was the third of five children added to this union.

Donna spent much of her young life on the pews of the family church, Mingleton Temple Church of God in Christ in Oakland CA. In those days, it was not uncommon for families to attend church almost every night of the week. Mingleton Temple was the foundation upon which Donna's spiritual life was established. However it was during the 1970's while singing with the California Northwest State Youth Choir at the Youth 'Extravaganza' in Monterey California where she received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and surrendered her life to Jesus Christ.

Donna grew up in the City of Oakland where she attended Oakland Public Schools. She attended Toler Heights Elementary School, King Estates Jr. High School and graduated from Skyline High School in 1970. As a young child of 5 years old Donna took piano lessons and later became an accomplished classical pianist. She also played the clarinet and sang in her school choir throughout her Junior High and High School years. Following graduation Donna attended California State University of Hayward in Hayward, CA where in 1974 she received her B.A. in Sociology. After Donna's college days she kept active by playing softball in a women's softball league. She also became a poet and wrote many inspiring poems for her daughter and niece. One poem in particular entitled 'Strong Black Women' was recited during the Oratorical Fest in the Oakland Unified School District.

In 1980 Donna married Roscoe Jones and from this union their daughter Chasya Nicole Jones was born. She became the joy of her life and she loved Chasya and would always dress her in the cutest dresses. Donna was a very supportive and caring mother and made sure Chasya had a strong educational background by encouraging her daughter to complete her educational goals. Donna set a positive example for her daughter to follow by being an example and living a Christian life before her.

In the early 1970's Donna was employed at Todd's Shipyards Corporation in Alameda CA. It was during those years women were taking jobs that were traditionally set aside for men. However, Donna believed that any job a man could do she could do better. Action speaks louder than words so she moved forward in her career and applied for employment at Southern Pacific Transportation Company. After coming off a tough and strenuous training program with Southern Pacific as a fireman, and challenging the big locomotives on the steel rail, in 1979 Donna became the first black and only woman locomotive engineer in the Western Division working out of Oakland CA. In May 1981 she was promoted to locomotive engineer.

Donna's career didn't stop there she became employed at the Carpenters Trust Fund Union. However, in 1993 she wanted to further her education and attended Merritt College where she obtained a degree in Paralegal Studies and moved across the bay to work for Heller Erhman LLP, the largest law firm in San Francisco CA where she became a legal secretary. She later became an Executive Assistant to the Director of Administration where she retired from this position in 2008.

Donna's creative and entrepreneurial spirit lead her to start her own accessory business (DLanae Co.). She was especially known for handkerchiefs which were displayed at the Northwest State Jurisdiction Convocation.

She was also known as the "Cake Lady" famous for baking cakes. Her butter and lemon pound cakes, red velvet, and german chocolate, pies, and candy were her specialty. She also made a mean peanut butter brittle that everyone loved.

In the early 1980's Donna became a member of Faith Restoration Fellowship Church in Oakland, CA, under Pastors James and Frankie McCurdy and the late Pastor Betty Wonzo. In 1992, Donna was ordained to the ministry under the leadership of Pastors James and Frankie McCurdy at Agŏpa Christian Fellowship Church in San Ramon, CA, and the late Pastor Violet Kitely of Shiloh Christian Fellowship Church of Oakland, CA. In 2000, Donna joined Kaleo Christian Fellowship under the ministry of Dr. Russell Duley. As a member of Kaleo Christian Fellowship, Donna was involved in a number of ministries. Donna loved singing with the Kaleo praise and worship teams as well as the Kaleo church choir. Donna later moved on with her brother Leonard and attended the Church of All Faiths where they led and taught praise and worship songs to a congregation that had never experienced true praise and worship mixed in with the traditional hymnals. Donna also attended Bible Study at the Prayer Tower COGIC every Tuesday night under the leadership of Pastor Ronald Thompson.

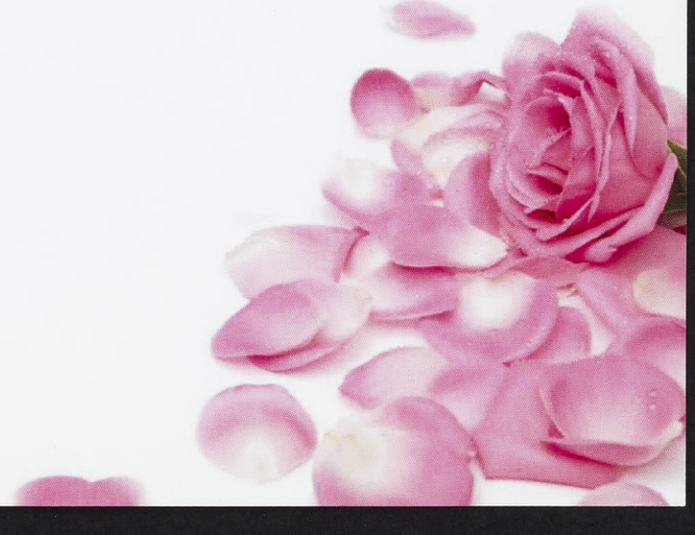
However, what Donna enjoyed doing the most was singing and recording music with her brothers in the Leonard Lothlen Band.

Donna believed in giving her best praise, worship, gifts and talents back to God, She was passionate about her work in the ministry and her walk with Christ. Donna was so loving and giving and had such a kind heart. She found joy in blessing others.

Donna became ill this past Holiday season and on January 27, 2016 she was admitted to Summit Hospital Emergency. After spending several weeks in the Hospital, Donna's main desire was to go home. On February 15, Donna was released to come home. There she spent her last days surrounded by her family and friends.

Donna transitioned from this life to the next on Thursday, February 18, 2016, when God called her home to her rest. Although she will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved her, we find great comfort in the fact that we'll see her again someday soon.

Donna leaves to mourn her passing, her loving daughter, Chasya Nicole Jones. She also leaves a loving mother, Aline L. Lothlen (her father Charles D. Lothlen II, brothers Darryl and Charles 'Mickey' all preceded her in death). She also leaves her brother, Elder Leonard B. Lothlen Sr. (Donna Jean), her sister, Carolyn Y. Smith. A host of nieces, namely; Dr. Joya Chavarin (William Chavarin Sr.), Brittni Lothlen (Keenan Jackson), Mariah Lothlen (Damario Hollier), and her nephew Leonard Lothlen Jr. Her grand-nieces Zharia Chavarin, Aerial Chavarin, Riley Hollier. Her great nephews William Chavarin Jr., Samuel Chavarin, Isaiah Lothlen, Nash Hollier, and Roosevelt Jackson. Her God-sisters Trina Haynes and Pamela Edwards. Her God-children Kevin Edwards, Ronald G. Thompson Jr., and Karina Kauo. Stepchildren;Tony Jones, Aaron Blair (Nicole) Omar and Kevin Jones. A host of cousins, church family and friends.



Active Pallbearers

Leonard Lothlen Jr.
Quincy Shephard
William Chavarin
Damario Hollier
Victor Goodwin
Keenan Jackson

Honorary Pallbearers

Frank Morgan
Jonathan Pryor
Richard K. Jackson
Mark Hayes
Charlie Thompson
Gregory Taylor

When I Grow Up

When I grow up
I'm going to be
A strong black woman
Just wait and see!

Some may say,
"What you saying girl!
Ain't no way,
Not in this world!"

There's many examples from history
Of strong black women born in poverty.

Harriet Tubman,
She didn't look back!
She ran a railroad, without a track!

Mary McLeod Bethune
Education was her game
She opened up schools of notoriety and fame!

Madame C.J. Walker
Her business was hair
She became the first black millionaire!

Marian Anderson
Lord, could she sing!
And, Mahalia Jackson,
made the heavens ring!

Rosa Parks, she was tired one day
When the white man said,
Get out my way!

But Rosa, she decided to take a stand
That changed the laws across the land!

But we don't have to look to history,
There's strong black women even now you see, there's:

Oprah, Lena Horne,
Leontyne Price
And Coretta King, Mya and Cicely Tyson

There's so many examples
From what I can see,
I can be what I want to be.

When I grow up
I'm going to be
A strong black woman,
Just you wait and see!!!

- Donna Lanae Lothlen

Acknowledgements

The family of Donna Lanae Lothlen wishes to express their sincere appreciation for each and act of kindness that has been expressed through your cards, flowers, food, prayers, presence, and words of encouragement. A sincere thank you to all who appeared on program. Your devotions and prayers have strengthened and blessed us much more than you'll ever know. May God richly bless you!

- The Lothlen Family

Special Acknowledgements

Joel Clifton of Joel Clifton Photography
Kaleo Christian Fellowship Church
Venita Webb-Goodwin – Program
Prayer Tower C.O.G.I.C.
Trina Haynes
Mingleton Temple C.O.G.I.C.
Webb Family
Mark & Susan Hayes
Darryl Norman, Musicians & Staff for "The Donna Lothlen Memorial Sanctuary Choir"

Final Arrangements

C. P. Bannon Mortuary
6800 International Blvd.
Oakland, CA 94621

Internment

Mountain View Cemetery
5000 Piedmont Avenue
Oakland, CA 94611
Monday, February 29, 2016 – 11:00 a.m.

A Repast with the family of Donna Lothlen will be held at
Kaleo Christian Fellowship Church
7700 Mountain Blvd.. Oakland. CA 94605